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Dean Paul Monroe of Teachers College, New York, is chairman, has been invited to devise plans for co-ordinating and improving educational methods in these five hundred institutions.

PRESIDENT PENDLETON ON UNION INSTITUTIONS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, WELLESLEY COLLEGE

Wellesley, Massachusetts

June 2, 1920.

Mr. Robert L. Kelly, Interchurch World Movement,
45 West Eighteenth Street, New York City.

My dear Mr. Kelly: I am sorry that your letter of May 5th has remained so long unanswered. My observations of the union institutions in the Orient were, of course, very much limited, but so far as they went, they seemed to show me that the union institutions have been successful. I received no inkling that theological differences interfered at all with the administration, nor did I discover any clashing of ideas in educational theory. It seems to me clear that the cost of higher education is so great that no single denomination can expect to support higher institutions in the Orient, and that therefore a union control is not only desirable, but has the advantage of fixing the idea of the Orientals upon education that is Christian rather than denominational. The institutions which I visited were the Women's Christian College in Japan, the North China Women's College at Peking, now known as Yenching College, and Ginling College at Nanking. I have no foundation for any testimony in regard to union experiences in other lines, though I have no reason to think that they have not been successful. I am, very truly yours,

ELLEN F. PENDLETON.

STATE INSTITUTIONS

In the various state institutions of higher education a large measure of co-operation has always been implied in their geographical distribution, their financial dependence on a single taxing power in each state, and in the disposition to concentrate resources on a few strong institutions. Notwithstanding these evidences of a distinct field for each school, some duplication of work has arisen between state universities and agricultural colleges. In the effort to minimize this overlapping, eight states in the last three years have, with the assistance of the

Federal Bureau of Education, carefully studied their educational systems. The result has been the formulation of a principle of major and service lines of work which will reduce the tendency to duplication.

CO-OPERATIVE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN UNIVERSITY CENTERS

Progress has been made during the last few years in the organization of the religious activities of the students in the large university centers. The coming together of a group of denominations, supported by their state and national bodies and working on a unified campus-wide program, has made it possible to secure a stronger personnel in the employed staff, to provide a wider range of courses of religious instruction, and to enlist the interest of a much larger number of the faculty and students.

Owing to wide differences in institutions, it is unwise to attempt any standardized form of organization but certain principles apply to all. Denominational responsibility is determined by a careful survey. Each denomination supports and controls its own share of the common enterprise and regular conferences are held for the adoption of a unified program and for the assignment of specific tasks. No attempt is made to duplicate any function that properly belongs to the university or to relieve the university of any part of its responsibility. The purpose is to supplement all the university is able to do by supplying opportunities for public worship, religious instruction, and training for Christian service.

Michigan Agricultural College, East Lansing. Population, 1,700. Students in regular term, 1,365; summer school and short courses, 819; total, 2,184. The only church is Congregational with 413 members. The church building is small and the community is unable to provide church buildings and financial support to accommodate all the students. At the suggestion of the University Committee of the Council of Church Boards of Education, all evangelical churches were invited to federate their work with the local Congregational church. The Boards of Education and the State bodies of the Baptist, Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches have so united and are supporting a college pastor and raising a fund for the erection of an adequate building for Church and Bible School. A wooden tabernacle is being erected to meet the needs until the permanent building is completed.